



**U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
Statement Draft Peer Review Findings on Phase 1 Dredging**

**August 16, 2010**

EPA has received a draft report containing findings of a peer review panel convened to independently review the first phase of dredging of PCBs from the upper Hudson. The report, entitled "Hudson River EPS Peer Review Report," is now available to the public at [www.epa.gov/hudson](http://www.epa.gov/hudson) and [www.hudsonredgingdata.com](http://www.hudsonredgingdata.com).

EPA has begun its detailed technical review of the draft report. EPA and GE have until August 27 to provide back to the peer review panel any necessary corrections. Then, the peer review panel has until September 10 to submit its final report. The Agency is appreciative of the hard work the peer reviewers put into the report. Their input will be extremely helpful in moving the next phase of the cleanup forward and restoring the health of the Hudson River.

A quick read of the conclusions indicates that the peer reviewers agree the second phase of the project can and should be implemented to remove PCBs and achieve the goals of cleaning up the Hudson. EPA had always envisioned adjustments would be necessary following peer review of Phase 1. The Agency agrees that additional work and changes to performance standards are needed in order to proceed with Phase 2 successfully, and will take into account the detailed recommendations of the peer reviewers as it evaluates options for how we will move forward. EPA intends to make a final decision this fall on how best to proceed with the second phase of the project.